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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ASCHOFF et al. Examiner: TSAL, S. J.  
Serial No.: 10/672,423 Group Art Unit: 2186  
Filed: September 26, 2003 Docket No.: **SJO920030019US1**  
(IBMS.069-0510)  
Title: METHOD, APPARATUS AND PROGRAM STORAGE DEVICE FOR  
PROVIDING AUTOMATIC PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION OF  
VIRTUALIZED STORAGE ALLOCATION WITHIN A NETWORK OF  
STORAGE ELEMENTS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on June 2, 2006.

By: 

David W. Lynch

**AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

An Office Action dated March 2, 2006 has been received and carefully reviewed. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration of the application and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully solicited.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 14 of this paper.